

July 16, 1954

Dear Luca--

We are leaving in a day or two for Woods Hole (I hope I gave my address there, merely the Marine Biological Laboratory) but will not arrive until about August 1. If you can send in advance the name of your ship we may be able to anticipate your arrival by watching the shipping page in the newspapers (The New York Times carries an extensive listing). If anything else does come up I will leave word, as previously arranged, with Davis.

We are hoping to avoid going to or through New York on this trip, if possible. I hope you will find it convenient to meet us at Woods Hole, and to drive back with us from there. It would probably be wisest if you could telephone me (c/o M.B.L.) upon your arrival. We have just completed the purchase of a house, and will have to be back at Madison in time to move from our present home (rented) some days before Sept. 10. The move will be no great difficulty, and will furnish an even better opportunity to put you up quite conveniently until you find a satisfactory apartment. -- this new place has three bedrooms and two baths (of sorts).

As you can imagine, the negotiations for this and the preparations for our imminent departure have together rather fully disrupted experimental work, and I can add very little about the conjugal pairs.

You asked about the weather. I imagine it is not greatly different from the Milanese climate. At any rate, we have a fairly typical continental climate, not appreciably affected by our latitude. During September, you are likely still to encounter a hot spell, though probably not over 80-85°; the average September temperature is given as 63° F. By December, there will have been a few inches of snow, and the temperature is only rarely above the freezing point, and may go down as far as 5-15° F. in the daytime. (Usually later in the winter, we typically have some days as cold as -10°, and rare nights, felt only by the car, fortunately, of as low as 25, even 30° below zero F! Contrast this with our summer maxima of 95-100° ! ) I hope this conveys an adequate impression. I am afraid it entails an inconvenient variety of clothing. Madison dress is, however, generally much less formal than it might be in academic circles in Europe, and one or two business suits will cover the full gamut of your needs, from which Pupa can judge accordingly.

Yours,

Joshua Lederberg